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STATINTL

Symington Lauds Globe's Position In Senate Talk

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WASHINGTON, — Criticism of The Globe-Democrat by Senator Fulbright (Dem.), Arkansas, last week was answered Friday by Senator Symington (Dem.), Missouri.

Senator Symington told the Senate that, contrary to Senator Fulbright's statements, The Globe-Democrat is a "rather conservative paper" and that its position on Vietnam "has been close to my own—move forward or move out."

Senator Symington also declared that The Globe-Democrat's publisher, Richard H. Amberg, "is a man of high character and an able and patriotic American, and had I been on the Senate floor at the time the Arkansas senator made his remarks, I would have so stated."

"Some 11 years ago, Mr. Amberg came to St. Louis to take over this newspaper," Mr. Symington said in a Senate address.

"Since then he has worked at least as hard as anyone in Missouri to make our town a finer place in which to live."

"The worthy causes he has supported are legion, and the area is a better area because of the many fields of civic progress in which he has been a leader."

"I would not want any record to imply otherwise."

NOT PRESENT

Sen. Symington said he had not been present in the Senate chamber on July 28 when Sen. Fulbright criticized The Globe-Democrat as a "rather radical newspaper" and one which "takes a radical position on foreign policy."

Senator Fulbright's criticisms were expressed during a series of speeches set off by a letter written to The Globe-Democrat by Richard Helms, the Central Intelligence Agency director.

In the letter, which was published in The Globe-Democrat, Mr. Helms said he had been pleased to read a Globe-Democrat editorial commending the Senate for rejecting a proposal by Sen. Fulbright and others to create a new committee to oversee the CIA.

The editorial said the Senate had done the right thing in giving Mr. Fulbright "his comeuppance."

Senator Fulbright and others objected to the letter for what they construed as intervention by the CIA in a domestic political issue. Senator Symington was among those expressing regret that the letter had been sent.

On Friday Senator Symington told the Senate he had not learned until later about Senator Fulbright's criticism of The Globe-Democrat.

"Apparently some people thought I was on the floor when he made his remarks," Senator Symington said.

For the record I do not agree with the senator's characterization of The Globe-Democrat as a "rather radical newspaper" and believe it could be more accurately termed a rather conservative paper.

"Nor do I believe The Globe-Democrat 'takes a radical position on foreign policy.' Its position on Vietnam has been close to my own."

MORI/CDF